

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 22, with the following written paragraph:

—In one embodiment, a detack layer is applied to the heat activatable adhesive. This embodiment is shown in Fig. 5. The heat seal laminate is indicated by reference numeral 500, and is comprised of a facestock 510, a heat activatable adhesive layer 512 underlying the facestock 510, laminating adhesive layer 514 adhered to facestock 510, carrier sheet 516 adhered to the laminating adhesive, and detack layer 518 applied to heat activatable adhesive layer 512. The detack layer prevents the heat activatable adhesive from becoming prematurely tacky during printing operations. Ink members 520 are printed directly onto detack layer 518. Alternatively, the ink members may be printed directly onto the heat activatable adhesive 512, and then over coated with detack layer 518. The detack layer may be compatible with the adhesive 512, so that upon exposure to heat, the detack layer is absorbed into the adhesive layer. The adhesive would then become tacky again. An example of such a detack layer is a high softening point tackifier such as terpene phenolic. Other useful detack layer materials include polyamides and fatty acids. The heat seal laminate may be adhered to the livestock tag using heat-sealing techniques known in the art. Referring to Fig. 6, the heat seal laminate 620 which includes facestock 610 and laminating adhesive layer 614 is placed on substrate 600 with the heat-activatable adhesive layer 612 in contact with the substrate, and ink layer 602 printed on substrate 600 or printed on adhesive layer 612. Heat and pressure are applied to the heat seal laminate by a heated platen in contact with the carrier sheet 616. The heat passes through the heat seal laminate 620 and softens or melts the heat activatable layer 612. The heat and pressure are removed, and the heat-activatable adhesive layer 612 cools and solidifies resulting in the formation of a heat-sealed bond between the heat seal laminate 620 and the substrate 600. Temperatures in the range of about 100°C to about 300°C, and in one embodiment about 150°C to about 250°C, and in one embodiment about 180°C to about 210°C, are typically used. Pressures in the ranges of about 2 to about 20 psi,

and in one embodiment about 8 to about 12 psi, are typically used. Dwell times of about 0.5 to about 60 seconds, and in one embodiment about 0.5 to about 20 seconds, and in one embodiment about 0.5 to about 10 seconds may be used. Any heat-sealing press used for heat-sealing labels, tapes, decals and the like, to substrates can be used. These are well known in the art. Upon application of the heat seal laminate to the substrate, the carrier sheet and laminating adhesive are removed using known removal or stripping techniques.